

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1002
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2001
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BY WOMEN
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any programme to encourage women and women's groups to identify and redress the issues of sustainable resource management in the rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a programme titled 'Strengthening Livelihood for Women's Empowerment' is already under implementation;
- (d) if so, the extent to which this sub-programme has initiated and strengthened the community organizations to enable them to redress survival issues, particularly sustainable livelihood;
- (e) the States which have implemented this programme;
- (f) the funds provided implementation of such activities to the States; and
- (g) the future plans of the Government for expansion of this programme?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a) & (b): There is no Programme in the Ministry of Rural Development exclusively for encouraging women and women's groups to identify and redress the issues of sustainable resource management in rural areas. However, the Government of India's Rural Development Programmes have a Women's component to ensure flow of adequate funds to this section. The major schemes, having women's component (implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development) include the following :-

The Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) has been launched w.e.f. 1.4.99 covering various aspects of self-employment, such as organisation of the poor into Self-Help Groups, training, credit, technology, infrastructure and marketing. It is envisaged that 50% of the group formed in each Block should be exclusively for women who will account for at least 40% of the Swarozgaris.

The Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) has been launched w.e.f. 1.4.99, with the twin objectives of creation of demand-driven community village infrastructure and the generation of supplementary employment (for the unemployed poor) in the rural areas. It is stipulated that 30% of the employment opportunities should be reserved for women.

The Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) aims at providing assistance for the construction of houses for people 'Below the Poverty Line' in rural areas. Under the scheme, priority is extended to widows and unmarried women. It has been laid down that IAY houses are to be allotted in the name of women members of the household or alternatively, in the joint names of husband and wife.

The National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), which came into effect five years back represents a significant step towards introducing a National Policy for Social Assistance benefits to households 'Below the Poverty Line' with a major focus on women.

Under the Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), training is being afforded to women to enable them to play an active role in using and maintain hand pumps for the supply of drinking water. Women are also represented in Village Level Committees and are actively involved in the selection of sites for hand pumps and other sources.

One third of the seats have been reserved for women in all three tiers of the Panchayati raj Institutions so that they can take active part in the development process at the village level.

(c) to (g) :- No programme titled 'Strengthening Livelihood for Women's Empowerment' is under implementation by the Ministry of Rural Development.